

Section 1:

#1 (First paragraph): Strengths: Your opening effectively creates a mysterious atmosphere with vivid sensory details like "cold and luminous" and "long, bony figures." You've built immediate tension with the strange figure approaching Luna. Weakness: Underdeveloped prompt connection → Your opening paragraph introduces a mysterious situation but doesn't clearly establish Luna as a hero on a quest or define her goal as requested in the prompt. Phrases like "continuing her walk to school, as if nothing had ever happened" suggest an ordinary day rather than a heroic journey. Exemplar: ***Luna gasped as the cold, luminous figure vanished from sight. "This is it," she thought determinedly, "I must discover what these strange beings want and why they've chosen me for this quest."***

#2 (Third paragraph): Strengths: Your use of the "DING!" sound effect creates an effective transition point in the story. You've shown Luna's character development as she makes a conscious decision to address her problem. Weakness: Minimal conflict development → This paragraph is quite brief and misses an opportunity to develop meaningful hurdles for Luna to overcome. The school bell rings and Luna simply decides to find a solution, but there's no sense of what obstacles she might face or what's truly at stake if she fails. Exemplar: ***DING! Whilst other students rushed joyfully towards freedom, Luna felt her heart sink. Without her shadow, she was vulnerable to the growing darkness that had been consuming children's shadows across the town. She would need to venture into the forbidden section of the library—a journey no twelve-year-old had survived.***

#3 (Final paragraph): Strengths: Your conclusion delivers a satisfying moral message about treating others (including shadows) with respect. The resolution shows character growth in Luna. Weakness: Rushed resolution → The final paragraph resolves the conflict too quickly without showing Luna's actual quest or the steps she took to regain her shadow. Phrases like "From that day onwards" skip over what could be the most interesting part of her heroic journey—actually implementing what she learned. Exemplar: ***After three days of leaving offerings at the shadow gateway beneath her bed, Luna awoke to find her shadow had returned. From that day onwards, Luna not only treated her own shadow as a friend, but began leading a movement amongst her***

schoolmates, teaching them that shadows were living creatures deserving of respect, just like humans.

Your piece presents an intriguing concept about shadows being sentient beings that can leave their owners when overworked. This is a creative and original premise with excellent potential for a quest story. However, the narrative doesn't fully develop Luna's heroic journey as requested in the prompt. You've introduced an interesting problem (the missing shadow), but the quest elements lack development. Luna doesn't face significant hurdles beyond finding a book, and her goal shifts from simply recovering her shadow to understanding shadow beings.

■ You could strengthen your story by clearly establishing Luna's goal earlier—perhaps she needs to journey to a shadow realm or complete specific tasks to earn back her shadow's trust. Additionally, consider introducing more substantial obstacles that test Luna's determination and courage. The library scene could be expanded to show Luna overcoming fears or solving riddles to access hidden knowledge. Finally, show us Luna's active efforts to win back her shadow rather than simply reading about the solution.

Overall Score: 39/50

Section 2:

Cold and luminous, a strange figure towered over Luna, sending shivers down her spine as it crept closer and closer to her. A chilling hand grasped onto her shoulder, its long, bony ~~figures~~ [fingers] pressing into her smooth, delicate skin. "AH!" ~~Gasped~~ [gasped] Luna. Her jaw dropped. "Wait a second...", thought the 12 ~~year-old~~ [year-old], "surely something just brushed me, whatever," she sighed, continuing her walk to school, as if nothing had ever happened. But little did she know, everything was not fine and soon she'd be in big trouble. #1

At lunch, however, Luna noticed that as she was casually playing under the merciless sun, her shadow was nowhere to be seen. The scorching rays were definitely burning her back, but the light would not cast a shadow. Trembling, Luna blinked her eyes, surely she was just imagining it, right? Yet even after resetting her mind and blocking all the craziness out, nothing followed her on the ground. Luna, being the bright girl that she was, knew that she was in major trouble, and something had to happen urgently.

DING! Usually, this sound was the moment that Luna was free to run home. But without her shadow, the girl knew she had to find a solution. #2

As Luna trudged through piles of books, the sweet, soothing aroma of biscuits and tea wafted up her nostrils. She felt the temptation to sit down in a rickety chair and have a snack, but she resisted the urge. "AHA!" ~~Whispered~~ [whispered] Luna running through to the shadows aisle, "what is a shadow?" "Why do I have a shadow?" Nothing. Then, out of the corner of her eye, Luna glimpsed the book, "~~why~~ [Why] isn't my shadow following me?"

"In states of being overworked, a shadow may ditch its owner entirely. It is important to know that once relaxed the shadow will go back to its true owner."

From that day onwards, Luna started to accept the fact that shadows were living creatures, just like humans. Even if her friends didn't believe her and overworked their shadows, Luna treated hers as a friend, not as a servant. Her shadow never left her again.
#3